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many species develop rapidly. *Psorophora* and *Conchylates* may reach maturity in five or six days after hatching.

The above is based upon observation made upon as many as nineteen species.

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THE CONVOCATION OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

It seems scarcely necessary to call attention once more to the meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Society of Naturalists and the special societies which are about to open their sessions at Washington. We have published the announcement of the local committee, and there will be found above some details in regard to the meetings of the societies. We have so often laid stress on the supreme importance of our societies as a factor in the advancement and diffusion of science that it is scarcely possible to say more than has already been said. All our readers know that the national scientific societies have hitherto met in two groups—the American Association and its affiliated societies in the summer and the American Society of Naturalists, with most of the societies devoted to the biological sciences, in the winter. These two great groups of scientific societies will this year meet together during convocation week at the chief scientific center of the country. Under these circumstances the meetings will be the largest and most important ever held on this continent.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

DR. GEORGE W. HILL, of Nyack, N. Y., and Professor A. A. Michelson, of the University of Chicago, have been elected foreign members of the Royal Society. The other foreign

members elected at the recent annual meeting are: Professor W. C. Brögger, Professor Gaston Darboux, Professor Ewald Hering, Baron Ferdinand von Richthofen, Graf H. zu Solms-Laubach and Professor Julius Thomsen.

M. DESLANDRES, of the astrophysical observatory at Meudon, has been elected a member of the Paris Academy of Sciences in succession to the late M. Faye.

SIR MICHAEL FOSTER has offered his resignation as member of parliament for the University of London.

SIR OLIVER LODGE has been appointed the next Romanes lecturer at Oxford University.

THE German Emperor has conferred the Royal Order of the Crown of Prussia, third class, upon Mr. A. Lawrence Rotch, founder and director of the Blue Hill Observatory, in recognition of his participation in the international work of exploring the atmosphere.

THE subject for the annual discussion before the American Society of Naturalists, which will be held on the afternoon of January 1, is 'How can Endowments be used most Effectively for Scientific Research?' The speakers are Professors T. C. Chamberlin, W. H. Welch, W. M. Wheeler, Franz Boas, J. C. Coulter and Hugo Münsterberg. The public lecture will be given on Tuesday evening by Dr. C. Hart Merriam, his subject being 'Protective and Directive Coloration of Animals, especially in Birds and Mammals.'

DR. ARTHUR W. GOODSPEED, professor of physics at the University of Pennsylvania, has been elected president of the Röntgen Ray Society.

DR. A. H. SMITH has been elected president of the New York Academy of Medicine and Dr. M. Allen Starr, vice-president.

DR. PEARCE BAILEY has been elected president of the New York Neurological Society.

MR. H. C. RUSSELL, F.R.S., is at present president of the Royal Society of New South Wales, having succeeded Professor A. Liveridge, F.R.S.

It is reported in foreign papers that Dr. A. Loir, of the Pasteur Institute, Paris, has proceeded to Bulawayo to establish a branch of the Institute there for the treatment of rabies by the anti-rabic inoculation method. Dr. Loir is a nephew of the late M. Pasteur, and has been engaged in the establishment of branches at Sydney, N. S. W., and Tunis.

As we have already stated, Lord Reay has been elected the first president of the newly established British Academy. Mr. I. Golancz has been elected secretary, and the following have been elected members of the council: Sir W. R. Anson, the Right Hon. James Bryce, Professor I. Bywater, Professor T. W. Rhys Davids, the Rev. Professor S. R. Driver, the Rev. Principal Fairbairn, Sir C. P. Ilbert, K.C.S.I., Sir R. C. Jebb, the Rev. Professor J. E. B. Mayer, Dr. J. A. H. Murray, Professor H. F. Pelham, the Rev. Professor W. W. Skeat, Sir E. Maunde Thompson, Dr. A. W. Ward, Professor James Ward.

MR. HOWARD J. ROGERS, chief of the department of education at the St. Louis Exposition, has been appointed director of the congresses to be held in conjunction with it. An advisory board has been appointed as follows: Chairman, Nicholas Murray Butler, president of Columbia University, New York city; William R. Harper, president of the University of Chicago; R. H. Jesse, president of the University of Missouri; Henry S. Pritchett, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Herbert B. Putnam, librarian of Congress.

THE Carnegie Institution has granted \$1,600 to Professor E. W. Scripture, of Yale University, for prosecution of researches on the voice.

ACCORDING to the daily papers, the Carnegie Institution has appropriated \$5,000 to Professor W. O. Atwater, for his work with the respiration calorimeter, and has made grants, the amount of which is not reported, to the Peabody Museum of Yale University, and to send Dr. H. S. Conrad, fellow in botany at the University of Pennsylvania, to Europe to study varieties of the water-lily.

IN honor of the eightieth birthday of Mrs. Louis Agassiz, president of Radcliffe College, the sum of \$116,000 has been collected which will be used for the construction of a students' house at Radcliffe College.

PROFESSOR JOHN O. REED, professor of physics in the University of Michigan, has been injured by an accident due to an explosion in his laboratory. It is feared that his eyesight may be lost.

MR. CHARLES LOUIS POLLARD, of the U. S. National Museum, secretary of the Wild Flower Preservation Society of America, delivered an illustrated lecture on 'Vanishing Wild Flowers,' at the Academy of Sciences of Philadelphia, on December 8, and at Hopkins Hall, Baltimore, on December 19. It is the intention of the society to give information as to its aims and methods of work by means of these lectures in various cities in addition to its distribution of literature. The responses from these two cities have been very gratifying, and indicate that with a wider understanding of the subject public sentiment will be sufficiently aroused to accomplish some practical good in plant protection. The annual meeting of the society will be held in the lecture hall of the National Museum, at Washington, on December 27. On this occasion Professor Francis E. Lloyd, of Teachers College, Columbia University, will lecture on 'The Colors of Flowers.'

DR. H. W. WILEY, president of the Indiana Academy of Science will deliver his presidential address before the academy at Indianapolis, on Friday, December 26. His topic will be 'What Science has Done for Indiana.'

THE Ohio State University Chapter of the Society of the Sigma Xi gave its public meeting of the year on December the eleventh. Professor J. A. Bownocker, who has recently completed an exhaustive study of the great natural gas fields of Ohio, gave the address of the evening under the title 'Natural Gas in Ohio, its Past and Present.'

PROFESSOR E. B. POULTON, F.R.S., will deliver the juvenile lectures at the Society of

Arts this year, his subject being 'Means of Defence in the Struggle for Life among Animals.'

A MEMORIAL tablet to the late Hamilton Y. Castner, the chemist, was unveiled on December 16 at Columbia University, of which he was an alumnus.

MISS LOUISE BRISBIN DUNN, tutor in botany in Barnard College, Columbia University, died suddenly of heart disease early in the morning of December 18. She was a graduate of Barnard and since her graduation has been a member of the teaching staff.

WE regret also to record the deaths of Professor Ladislava Celakovského, professor of botany in the Bohemian University at Prague, at sixty-nine years of age; of Dr. George Thoms, professor of agricultural chemistry at the Polytechnic School at Riga, at the age of sixty years; of Dr. Ernst Meynert, associate professor of anatomy at the University of Halle, at the age of thirty-nine years; and of Dr. M. Wilde, docent in hygiene at the University at Munich, at the age of thirty-two years.

THE Archeological Institute of America will meet at Princeton on December 31 and January 1 and 2.

A CIVIL service examination will be held on January 27 for the position of chemical clerk in the food laboratory of the Bureau of Chemistry, Department of Agriculture. The salary is \$600, and the position is open to either men or women.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

At the convocation exercises of the University of Chicago it was announced that Mr. John D. Rockefeller had given \$1,000,000 to be added to the endowment, and that other sums amounting to \$526,000 had been given to the university.

THE Medical Department of Tulane University has been made the residuary legatee of the late A. C. Hutchinson, and it is expected that it will receive from the estate about \$1,000,000.

MRS. MARY M. ADAMS, widow of the late Charles Kendall Adams, the president of the University of Wisconsin, has left the University a large part of her estate. This will be added to the fellowship fund, created by the will of President Adams. The bequest includes the library of President Adams.

THE University of Rochester has received a gift of \$10,000 from Mrs. Esther Baker Steele.

SENN HALL, of the Rush Medical College, was dedicated on December 17, the principal address being made by Sir William Hingston, professor of surgery in Laval University, Montreal. The building has been erected at a cost of \$130,000 towards which Dr. Senn gave \$30,000.

THE corner stone of the gymnasium of Stanford University, which the daily papers state will cost \$500,000, was laid on December 11.

THE erection of the Scott Hall of Natural Science of Wesleyan University will be begun in the spring. The building is 120 x 50 ft., with an extension 49 x 28 ft.

WE are requested to call attention again to the dinner to be given to the Association of American Universities in New York City on December 30, tickets for which can be obtained by the alumni of the universities represented in the association on application to Professor B. D. Woodward, Columbia University, New York City. President Butler, of Columbia, will preside, and speeches will be made by President Eliot, of Harvard; President Hadley, of Yale; Mr. James W. Alexander and the Honorable Wayne MacVeagh.

AN appeal has been made by New York University to the Court of Appeals from the decision of the Appellate Division which awarded to the Medical College Laboratory of the City of New York the premises which were deeded over to the university in 1897 by the Medical College Laboratory of the City of New York under a plan to combine the university and the laboratory.

DR. OBERHUMMER, professor of geography at Munich, has been called to Vienna.